

# Information Bulletin



## Editorial

### 20 years anniversary

In 1995, Jean-Claude Charrault had the brilliant vision for the **European Energy Forum**: a place where MEPs, the European Commission and the Industry would meet to get informed on an energy issue, to exchange information and to debate on their views that do not necessarily coincide. He established the Belgian ASBL and implemented the dinner-debates and events where all views would be confronted.

**20 years later**, we are proud to celebrate a milestone anniversary that was achieved thanks to the dedication of **Jean-Claude Charrault**, the previous Director General of the EEF and the leadership of the EEF past and current Presidents **Rolf Linkohr** MEP, **Giles Chichester** MEP and **Jerzy Buzek** MEP.

The future ahead of us looks bright and I'm pleased to finish with a quote from **Dominique Ristori**, Director General of DG Energy, European Commission and supporter of the EEF since the early times : *"Looking ahead, the role of the EEF is more important than ever. We need the Forum's expertise and know-how, to provide a place for discussion where EU actors in the energy sector can meet, debate, and be informed. I am pleased that the EEF celebrate twenty years and I look forward to increasing the close and fruitful cooperation that exists between the Forum and DG Energy for many years to come."*

**Pascale Verheust**, Director General

## Upcoming events

**07/01/2015**

Reception in Brussels

***20 years of energy debates***

At the invitation of **EEF**



**13/01/2015**

Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

***The Market Stability Reserve: time to strengthen the EU ETS and ensure competitiveness***

At the invitation of **ENEL and E.ON**

**20/01/2015**

Dinner-debate in Brussels

***The Regulators' Contribution to European Energy Policy and the Achievement of the Energy Union***

At the invitation of **E-CONTROL**

**10/02/2015**

Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

***How to integrate up to 60% renewables to the EU power system : The European Network Transmission System Operators for Electricity, ENTSO-E, on why infrastructure is key in meeting EU's 2030 climate and energy objectives***

At the invitation of **ENTSO-E**

**24/02/2015**

Dinner-debate in Brussels

***The IEA's World Energy Outlook 2014: What are the Implications for the EU's 2030 Climate and Energy Framework?***

At the invitation of **Westinghouse**



## EEF Information Bulletin



## EEF events

## Waste-to-Energy: a vital link in the circular economy

02/12/2014: Dinner-debate in Brussels



The last dinner-debate of 2014 focused on the production of electricity and heat out of waste combustion. In July 2014, the European Commission adopted a Communication "Towards a circular economy: a zero waste programme for Europe" with the aim of: boosting recycling, reducing dependence on landfills and promote circular economy business models. As part of the Package, the European Commission issued a Waste Targets Proposal reviewing the waste management targets of six European Directives including the Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC. Key new targets were proposed: recycling of municipal waste to be increased to 70% by 2030; recycling of packaging waste to be increased to 80% by 2030; phasing out land-filling by 2025 for recyclable waste in non-hazardous waste landfills, which corresponds to a maximum landfilling rate of 25%.



Waste to energy plants will help meet the targets set by the Commission, as waste volume can be reduced to about 90%. According to **Mr Lorenzo Zaniboni** who presented the case study of the city of Brescia in Italy, waste management is an opportunity to use local energy sources, and reduce dependency on gas or fuels. Regarding the emissions, he said, there are very strict rules to control them and air quality in cities can actually be improved by replacing, for instance, single boilers with district heating systems operated with waste energy. Part of the bottom ash resulting from waste combustion can also be processed and recycled.



Two representatives from the European Commission covered the two sectors concerned with waste management: energy and the environment.

**Paula Abreu Marques, Head of Unit for renewables at DG Energy**, explained that public policy should also focus on the potential of organic municipal and industrial waste, as biomass, including municipal and industrial waste, *"is the biggest renewable energy source in the EU and it is expected to deliver over half of the renewables target set by the Commission"*. Waste to energy can improve security of supply by meeting energy demand with local energy sources.



The head of unit responsible for waste management from DG Environment, **Julio García Burgués**, highlighted that waste *"is a safe and fully reliable source of renewable energy"*. Besides, *"waste to energy is making an important contribution to meet energy targets and we cannot afford not to use energy contained in waste"*. There are however sharp differences among Member States. The lack of waste to energy production in certain countries is partly due to the low acceptance of energy recovery measures. Mr García Burgués pointed out that waste industry needs to increase its efforts to face this challenge.

# EEF Information Bulletin



## EEF events

### EEF: the history *(excerpts from the history review by J C Charrault)*



20 years ago, the European Energy Forum was a newly reborn association that was making its first steps within the Brussels bubble. The European sphere was different from what it is now and the association evolved throughout the years to adapt to the changes experienced by a European project in permanent construction and evolution. Former EEF Director General **Jean-Claude Charrault** has been one of the witnesses of this process. He has known the EEF since the beginning and has made it what it is. He left the association after 17 years at the head of the EEF Secretariat. Here is his overview of this experience.

#### Origins



The Forum was originally a French association registered in Alsace-Moselle. It was created in the early 1980s by **Senator François Pintat**, a parliamentarian representing the French Parliament in the European Parliament before it was elected by universal suffrage.

He believed that programmatic energy decisions were too often dictated by considerations that were far removed from the interests in play and, at the time, dogmatic! He sought a solution to this via an association open to all ideas and in which all sectors of industry and research competent in the fields in question could participate.

The association was named the Fondation Européenne de l'Énergie (European Energy Foundation).



#### The “European Energy Foundation” association

At the time (early 1980s), I was a “senior official” assigned to the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy. That is where I met and was associated with all the people who would be involved in the creation and the activities of the European Energy Foundation.

The relations between the members of the Foundation were very good and the association had a good reputation with both European parliamentarians, and with the representatives of energy companies including producers, transformers and users.

*The EEF logo evolving through the years*

# EEF Information Bulletin



## EEF events

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### EEF: the history

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The association's activity consisted primarily in the collection and dissemination of industry information and documentation to parliamentarians who requested it and included occasional meetings of Foundation members to discuss specific topics.

In addition, a monthly liaison and information bulletin was designed, written and distributed on a regular basis by the Secretary General.

#### Recasting of the EEF in 1995: Rolf Linkohr and Jean Claude Charraut



European parliamentarians had a very positive perception of the Foundation thanks to the dedication of its Secretary General and the charisma of its promoters in Parliament, primarily its president at the time, **Dr Rolf Linkohr**. It was very clear that the environment was changing quickly. The European institutions were becoming more powerful, the number of means of transport was increasing, and companies were growing. Brussels hosted more and more lobbyists and provided European parliamentarians with direct access to the information they needed. However, with respect to energy policy, objective positions were still to a large extent countered by dogmatism.

I believed that it was no longer useful for the Secretary General of the European Energy Foundation to work to provide documentation to parliamentarians, but that it was necessary to ensure that the documentation obtained was debated so that they could form their own opinion about its objectivity.



I proposed in 1995 the creation of new articles of association for the Association Européenne de l'Energie (legal name of our association) to President Linkohr that would define two different categories of members:

- On one hand, **Active Members**, European parliamentarians with an interest in energy policy, and
- On the other hand, **Associate Members**, industrial companies (or, potentially, research centres) working in an energy sector.

In fact, when President Linkohr and I implemented the new organisation, he played his role to the fullest. He continued until he left as President of the Foundation. He led our events, and given their success, was happy to continue.



# EEF Information Bulletin



## EEF events

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#### The EEF and Giles Chichester

Rolf Linkohr was elected as a Member of Parliament in 1979 by universal suffrage and didn't run in the European elections in 2004. As a result, he resigned as President of the Foundation. It was at this time that the Foundation had to change its name due to modifications to the laws in France and Belgium. Use of the term "foundation" was now reserved for a very specific kind of organisation.

Our association was renamed "Forum" and became the European Energy Forum with **Giles Chichester** as its president. He exercised his mandate with the meticulous management and energy required.



#### Jerzy Buzek

**Jerzy Buzek** was elected President of the European Energy Forum on 1 July 2014. He had already been active in the EEF for 10 years. It is an honour for the EEF to have him as President and to prepare the future of the association with him.

#### The EEF, a unique association



Twenty years have gone by since the transformation of the EEF. I can truly say that I'm very satisfied with what it has been, is and what, I'm convinced, it will continue to be.

In January 2013, I turned my Director General mandate over to **Pascale Verheust**. The EEF will continue to evolve with its new President and its new Board. The future will continue to provide the EEF with new and fascinating energy topics.

*The full text is available upon request, in French or in English.*